Revision of wholesale price index

3077. SHRI K. G. MAHESHWARAPPA
CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 664 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) when the basket of whole price index was constituted and since when the proposal for its revision is under consideration;

(b) what is the weight assigned to each product in the basket for the purpose of computation of wholesale price index;

(c) what is turnover of the products covered under the basket and what is its percentage to the total turn over of drugs and finished medicines in the country; and

(d) what was the whole sale price index in July, 1987 and May, 1991 and in November, 1991 and to what extent those indexes are representative of price increases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) As per available information the currently operated wholesale Price Index (WPI) series with base 1981-82 was introduced w.e.f. July, 1989. Preparatory work regarding revision of the current W.P.I. series has been initiated by the Ministry of Industry.

(b) The W.P.I. has three broad constituents. Their weights in the currently operated series are given below:

(i) Primary Article . .	32·295
(ii) Fuel Power, Light and Lubricants . . .	10·663
(iii) Manufactured products .	57·042
All commodities	100·00

(c) The W.P.I. is all comprehensive. The turnover of products covered in the basket, therefore, is not available. The turnover of drugs and formulations, however, is given below:

Value of Production

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Bulk Drugs	Formulation
1989-90	640	3420
1990-91	700	3600

(d) Price increases are reflected in the changes in the W.P.I. The W.P.I. for all commodities with base 1981-82 is equal to 100 was 140.7 in July, 1987, 194.8 in May, 1991 and 210.5 (provisional in November, 1991).

Hike in prices of bulk drugs

3078. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:

SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA:

Will he PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of imported inputs of each of the bulk drug where prices have been hiked for more than 23 per cent due to change in exchange rate of rupee;

(b) what was the price taken of each input in the earlier data and what price of each has been taken for price increase;

(c) what are the names of producers of each drug and what was the stock of each input available with the producer at the time price increase was granted;

(d) what are the names of formulations for which prices have been increased based on price increase of each drug and when was the price of bulk drug and prices of formulations notified; and